(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 11 November 2004 (11.11.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/098068 A1

(51) International Patent Classification7:

H03M 13/41

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/GB2004/001770

(22) International Filing Date:

27 April 2004 (27.04.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

0309782.1

29 April 2003 (29.04.2003)

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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM.

AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH. GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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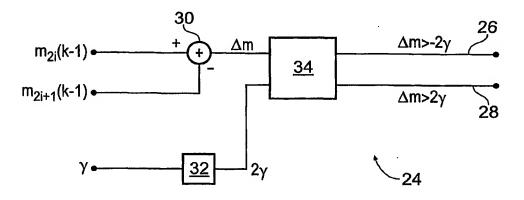
as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

Published:

with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: ACS APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR VITERBI DECODER



(57) Abstract: The circuit (10) performs a butterfly calculation for a Viterbi trellis by using two path metrics and a branch metric to generate two new path metrics. The new metrics are produced by adders (12) and (14) whose inputs are controlled by selectors (16-22). The outputs of the selectors (16-22) are controlled by selection control unit (24) which considers the difference between the given path metrics relative to the double of the branch metric, which represents a branch metric difference.

